

# OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROTECTION FOR NASA EMPLOYEES

THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT OF 1970, EXECUTIVE ORDER 12196 AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS (29 CFR 1960) REQUIRE THE HEADS OF FEDERAL AGENCIES TO FURNISH TO EMPLOYEES PLACES AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT THAT ARE FREE FROM SAFETY AND HEALTH HAZARDS.

The NASA Designated Agency Safety and Health Official is the Associate Administrator for the Office of Life and Microgravity Sciences and Applications (Code U) Washington, D.C. 20546. The safety designee for this workplace is **Grant M. Watson** and may be contacted at **864-7233**. The health designee for this workplace is **Karen A. Koch** and may be contacted at **864-9423**.

## NASA RESPONSIBILITIES

1. To comply with safety and health standards issued pursuant to Section 6 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act or approved NASA alternate and supplemental standards.
2. To set up procedures for responding to employee reports of unsafe and unhealthful working conditions.
3. To acquire, maintain, and require the use of approved personal protective equipment and safety equipment, where required and appropriate.
4. To inspect all workplaces at least annually with participation by representatives of employees.
5. To establish procedures to assure that no employee is subject to restraint, interference, coercion, discrimination, or reprisal for exercising his/her rights under the NASA safety and health programs.
6. To post notices of imminent danger or other serious unsafe or unhealthful working conditions found during inspections.
7. To assure prompt abatement of hazardous conditions. Employees exposed to such conditions shall be informed of the abatement plan. Employees shall be removed from conditions which represent an imminent danger or the operations shall be discontinued.
8. To set up a management information system to keep records of occupational accidents, injuries, illnesses, and their causes; and to post annual summaries of injuries and illnesses for a minimum of 30 days at each establishment.
9. To conduct occupational safety and health training programs for senior management, supervisors, safety and health personnel, employees and employee representatives.

## EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

1. To comply with all OSHA and approved NASA occupational safety and health standards.
2. To comply with NASA policies and directives relative to safety and health programs.
3. To use personal protective equipment and safety equipment provided by NASA.

## RIGHTS OF EMPLOYEES AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

1. To participate in NASA safety and health programs. Employees shall be authorized official time to participate in the activities provided by Executive Order 12196, implementing regulations (29 CFR 1960) and the NASA safety and health programs.
2. To have access to NASA standards, LaRC injury and illness statistics, and safety and health program procedures.
3. To comment on alternate or supplementary safety or health standards which NASA proposes.
4. To report and request inspection of unsafe or unhealthful working conditions to the appropriate officials including the Secretary of Labor. However, the Secretary of Labor encourages NASA employees to use NASA procedures for reporting hazardous conditions as the most expeditious means to achieve abatement. Anonymity is assured if requested.

## INFORMATION ON NASA'S SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAMS

Detailed information may be found in the NASA management instructions/handbooks in the 2700 series (health and safety policies and management), the 1700 series (safety management), the 1800 series (occupational health management), and the 8700 series (safety and health standards). Information on LaRC safety and health programs may be found in the **LaRC Safety Manual**.